

Amendments to the Specification:

The paragraph starting at page 1, line 9, is amended and now reads as follows:

-- A spring element for vehicle suspensions is disclosed in the United States Patents 4,781,365 and 4,690,388. The essential features of this spring element are described in the first paragraphs of the ~~disclosure~~ respective disclosures. --

The paragraph starting at page 1, line 20, is amended and now reads as follows:

-- The spring element known from the above-mentioned state of the art is to be improved in such a manner that, during the introduction of vertical and horizontal forces, the wear of the rubber is reduced and [[a]] an easy horizontal sliding is made possible. --